

Service Date: May 11, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF the Application of) REGULATORY DIVISION
NorthWestern Energy for Townsend Propane)
Supply Rate Adjustment) DOCKET NO. D2016.4.34

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND INTERVENTION DEADLINE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 29, 2016, NorthWestern Energy (“NorthWestern”) filed its Application for Townsend Propane Supply Rate Adjustment with the Montana Public Service Commission (“PSC”). The application included a request for an interim rate decrease to be effective June 1, 2016.

NorthWestern seeks to decrease its propane supply rate to reflect the current propane supply contract prices as well as costs associated with propane plant usage and carrying costs. NorthWestern proposes to decrease the summer rate from \$0.719 per therm to \$0.556 per therm and the winter rate from \$0.775 per therm to \$0.685 per therm.

In its filing, NorthWestern also requests approval to extinguish the current Unreflected Propane Supply Costs Account (“UPSCA”) Balance approved in Final Order No. 7412a in Docket No. D2015.4.40, and to reflect in rates the under-collected UPSCA Balance of \$16,909 for the 12-month period ending May 31, 2016 included with an under-collection of \$3,201, which is the balance that results from cessation of the amount approved for amortization in Order No. 7412a. Therefore, the estimated under-collected UPSCA Balance at the end of May 2016 is \$20,110. NorthWestern proposes to amortize and collect this balance from June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017 at a rate of \$0.04973 per therm based on the 12-month forecasted load.

A copy of the filing is available for inspection at the PSC’s business offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601; and the Montana Consumer Counsel (“MCC”), 111 North Last Chance Gulch Suite 1B, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, Montana 59620-1703, telephone (406) 444-2771. The MCC is available to represent the interests of the consuming public in this matter.

Any interested person who is directly affected by NWE's filing before the PSC and who wants to be a party to the docket must file a petition to intervene with the PSC **no later than**

June 8, 2016. By the intervention deadline, a person petitioning for intervention must:

(1) Submit the petition electronically (e-file) on the PSC's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Account Login/Registration" under "Electronic Documents" tab); and (2) physically deliver or mail the original petition to the PSC at the address above. The PSC will not post an e-filed document to its website until it receives the original from the petitioner. A person petitioning for intervention in this Docket must also serve a hard copy of the petition on the MCC and NorthWestern, 208 N. Montana, Suite. 205, Helena, Montana 59601.

An interested person that does not wish to formally intervene in this Docket may submit written public comments on the matter to the Commission at the above address, or through its web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Comment on Proceedings"). The PSC has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3 of the Montana Code Annotated

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman
TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman
KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner
ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner
BOB LAKE, Commissioner